

Serial No. 10/648,912
60.130-1791
02MRA0466

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 20 and 21 without prejudice.

1. (Currently amended) A guide mechanism for a movable cover of a roof in a vehicle, comprising

at least one slotted guide coupled to the cover and movable between a raised position, an initial position, and a lowered position, wherein said at least one slotted guide causes the cover to move vertically, said at least one slotted guide having a first locking portion; and

at least one profiled rail that guides said at least one slotted guide horizontally together with the cover along said at least one profiled rail, said at least one profiled rail ~~having~~ defining a second locking portion,

wherein the first and second locking portions directly engage with each other to directly engage the first locking portion of ~~lock~~ said at least one slotted guide with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the raised position and in the initial position to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

2. (Currently amended) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second locking portions engage with each other to lock said at least one slotted guide with said at least one profiled rail ~~with the positive fit~~ when said at least one slotted guide is in the initial position to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

3. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second locking portions disengage to move said at least one slotted guide out of locking engagement with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the lowered position.

4. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first and second locking portions are sole structures in the guide mechanism for forming a

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locking engagement between said at least one slotted guide and said at least one profiled rail in the raised position to prevent horizontal rearward displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

5. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first locking portion comprises at least one extension on said at least one slotted guide and the ~~second locking portion comprises at least one recess in said at least one profiled rail, wherein~~ said at least one extension and said at least one recess engage in locking engagement to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

6. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 5, further comprising a pivot bearing disposed at a front end of said at least one slotted guide and wherein the extension is provided close to the front end.

7. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 5, wherein said at least one profiled rail has a C-shaped profile with upper converging webs, wherein at least one of said upper converging webs has said at least one recess.

8. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 5, wherein the extension extends below the recess when said at least one slotted guide is in the lowered position, and wherein said at least one profiled rail prevents the extension from rising vertically after said at least one slotted guide is displaced horizontally when in the lowered position.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

a drain gutter disposed at a rear edge of the cover, wherein the drain gutter extends generally transversely with respect to said at least one profiled rail; and

a bearing part connected to the drain gutter and adapted to be shifted along said at least one profiled rail,

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wherein the bearing part and the drain gutter are spaced apart from said at least one slotted guide ~~in the horizontal direction~~ in the raised position.

11. (Currently amended) A guide mechanism for a movable cover of a roof in a vehicle, comprising

~~at least one slotted guide coupled to the cover and movable between a raised position, an~~
initial position, and a lowered position, wherein said at least one slotted guide causes the cover to move vertically, said at least one slotted guide having a first locking portion;

at least one profiled rail that guides said at least one slotted guide horizontally together with the cover along said at least one profiled rail, said at least one profiled rail having a second locking portion,

wherein the first and second locking portions engage with each other to lock said at least one slotted guide with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the raised position to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide;

a drain gutter disposed at a rear edge of the cover, wherein the drain gutter extends generally transversely with respect to said at least one profiled rail; and

a bearing part connected to the drain gutter and adapted to be shifted along said at least one profiled rail, wherein, in the initial position and in the lowered position, a portion of said at least one slotted guide engages a portion of the bearing part and is positively coupled thereto in the horizontal direction,

and wherein the bearing part and the drain gutter are spaced apart from said at least one slotted guide ~~in the horizontal direction~~ in the raised position.

12. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 11, further comprising a nose molded to a rear edge of said at least one slotted guide, wherein the nose engages a recess in the bearing part.

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13. (Currently amended) A guide mechanism for a movable cover of a roof in a vehicle, comprising

at least one slotted guide coupled to the cover and movable between a raised position, an initial position, and a lowered position, wherein said at least one slotted guide causes the cover to move vertically, said at least one slotted guide ~~having defining~~ a first locking portion;

~~at least one profiled rail that guides said at least one slotted guide horizontally together~~
with the cover along said at least one profiled rail, said at least one profiled rail ~~having defining~~ a second locking portion,

wherein the first and second locking portions engage with each other to ~~lock directly~~ engage the slotted guide with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the raised position and in the initial position to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide, and wherein the first and second locking portions disengage to move said at least one slotted guide out of locking engagement with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the lowered position;

a drain gutter disposed at a rear edge of the cover, wherein the drain gutter extends generally transversely with respect to said at least one profiled rail; and

a bearing part connected to the drain gutter and adapted to be shifted along said at least one profiled rail, wherein the bearing part and the drain gutter are spaced apart from said at least one slotted guide ~~in the horizontal direction in the raised position.~~

14. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first and second locking portions are the sole structures in the guide mechanism for forming a locking engagement between said at least one slotted guide and said at least one profiled rail in the raised position to prevent horizontal rearward displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

15. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 13, wherein the first locking portion comprises at least one extension on said at least one slotted guide and the second locking portion comprises at least one recess in said at least one profiled rail, wherein the extension and recess engage in locking engagement to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide.

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16. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 15, further comprising a pivot bearing disposed at a front end of said at least one slotted guide, wherein the extension is provided close to the front end.

17. (Previously presented) The guide mechanism as claimed in claim 15, wherein the extension extends below the recess when said at least one slotted guide is in the lowered position, and wherein said at least one profiled rail prevents the extension from rising vertically after said at least one slotted guide is displaced horizontally when in the lowered position.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) A guide mechanism for a movable cover of a roof in a vehicle, comprising:

at least one slotted guide coupled to the cover and movable between a raised position, an initial position, and a lowered position, wherein said at least one slotted guide causes the cover to move vertically, said at least one slotted guide having a first locking portion;

at least one profiled rail that guides the slotted guide horizontally together with the cover along said at least one profiled rail, said at least one profiled rail having a second locking portion,

wherein the first and second locking portions engage with each other to lock the slotted guide with said at least one profiled rail with a positive fit when said at least one slotted guide is in the raised position and in the initial position to prevent horizontal displacement of said at least one slotted guide, and wherein the first and second locking portions disengage to move said at least one slotted guide out of locking engagement with said at least one profiled rail when said at least one slotted guide is in the lowered position;

a drain gutter disposed at a rear edge of the cover, wherein the drain gutter extends transversely with respect to the vehicle;

a bearing part connected to the drain gutter and adapted to be shifted along said at least one profiled rail, wherein the bearing part and the drain gutter are spaced apart from said at least one slotted guide in the horizontal direction in the raised position; and

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a nose molded to a rear edge of said at least one slotted guide, wherein, in the initial position and in the lowered position, the nose engages the bearing part to positively couple said at least one slotted guide and the bearing part in the horizontal direction.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)